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## Einstein To Be Operated On

New York, Dec. 30.—Professor Albert Einstein, 70-year-old next March, will be operated on tomorrow because of a gall bladder defect. His doctors said the operation was for nothing malignant but merely a surgical correction of a long-standing condition.

The operation will be performed by Dr. Rudolf Nissen, professor of surgery in Berlin.—Reuter.

## H.K. Govt. Rep. Coming To Colony

(OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

London, Dec. 30.—Mr E. G. A. Grimwood, the Hongkong Government's representative in London, will leave on January 5 for talks in Hongkong.

Among the matters he will discuss with the Government will be the Colony's import quotas for the coming year, Hongkong's part in the British Industries Fair, general advertising in the United Kingdom, and the establishment of the London office of the Hongkong Government "on a proper footing".

During the last few months Mr Grimwood has been in close contact with the Board of Trade and has sent the Hongkong Government considerable information on the question of placing Hongkong exports in the United Kingdom.

"I have several queries from English businessmen on the possibility of improving the quality of the Colony's exports, and also some ideas for opening up new lines in the export trade," he told me.

"I'm also going to explain how highly Hongkong is rated by the people of Britain at the moment," he added.

Mr Grimwood expects to be in Hongkong for six weeks, after which he will return to London to deal with Hongkong's stall at the British Industries Fair.

## Royalty At Circus

London, Dec. 30.—Princess Elizabeth, with the Duke of Edinburgh, Princess Margaret and a small party of friends, saw Bertram Mills' Christmas-time circus at the Olympia Exhibition Hall here tonight—her second night out since the birth of her baby.—Reuter.

## EDITORIAL

### Hotel Rates Report

MAKING full allowance for the "complex and controversial" nature of the investigation, the report of the Hotel Rates Advisory Committee is not likely to arouse a great deal of popular enthusiasm. There has been an obvious endeavour to reach what the committee feel to be a fair compromise, and where they have recommended reductions in current rates, these will, in fact, be a measure of popularity among residents. Two points are made in the report which are somewhat cloudy in meaning. The committee observes that in a report of this nature they could only deal with broad principles, and that cases of hardship either individual or collective both in respect of residents and hotel management have been disregarded. That can be accepted as a sensible approach, but it is rather a pity the report fails to indicate what precisely were the broad principles on which the committee worked. They are difficult to discern within the recommendations. Later on, when referring to the proposition that certain percentages of accommodation should be reserved for "resident guests", the committee adds the notation that, this is something which interferes with the normal course of the hotel industry, but that the present circumstances justify the recommendations. This seems to be a long way from broad principles. In fact the two sentiments expressed in the qualifying sentence quoted above represent the special "hardship" pleadings of both hotel managers and residents. We are perfectly in agreement with the committee, however, in its decision to

recommend percentage reservations, even though the feeling is left that some hotels may not be carrying their full share of this "burden". The committee's view of the amended accommodation rates, where they are recommended, cannot be critically assessed here because vital statistics bearing on this question are not available to the public. But it is appreciated that the committee was well served by the fact that it can therefore be accepted that the recommendations are justly arrived at. To the committee, the most astonishing feature of the inquiry must have been display of apathy, given by hotel residents, for of the 1,125 questionnaires sent to occupants of rooms in the European type hotels, only one third bothered to reply. It is this sort of thing that remains the constant despair of those who work hard and sincerely in what is regarded as the interests of the public, and it is an unpleasant reminder of the indifference of the average person to matters affecting even himself. Now that the committee has completed its task, the rest is up to the Government, which would be foolish in the extreme to delay too long its decisions regarding the recommendations. The reasons why the committee's deliberations were so extended have been given, and the explanation is accepted. But there are no acceptable grounds for Government failing to act on the report rapidly, and if the committee's recommendations are accepted in toto, it should be insisted that they become operative from the day they were laid on the Legislative Council table.

## NEWSPAPERS' CONCERN

Chinese newspapers voiced concern over this development, pointing out that fire engines would have to make lengthy detours in the event of a conflagration, while residents of thickly populated districts felt that they would find themselves boxed in should any emergency arise in their neighbourhood.

Amid this gloom, the people of North China continue to pursue their "peace offensive" through the medium of a highly-representative body of industrial, commercial and educational circles.

The latest action, taken just before curfew last night, was a short telegram to high officials and generals, now assembling in Nanking.

The cable, despatched through the care of General Yen Hsi-shan, Governor of Shansi, declared: "The people of North China are eagerly longing for peace. They cannot bear further miseries and sufferings. As the life or death of the country now hangs upon the decision of your momentous meeting, we fervently hope you will courageously speak and act according to the wishes of the people."

## STILL TENSE

The cable was signed by 81 of Tientsin's most prominent intellectuals, who earlier had addressed peace appeals to President Chiang Kai-shek and Mao Tse-tung, China's No. 1 Communist.

Despite the occasional resounding blasts throughout yesterday, no military contacts occurred in the various sectors around Tientsin, according to the Chinese press, which however stated the position was still tense.

Red concentrations in the southern suburbs were estimated at two columns while another was based at Panchiahuang, about 30 kilometres northwest of Tientsin. The Chinese Air Force made reconnaissance flights yesterday.—Reuter.

# HOPES RISING FOR PEACE IN N. CHINA

## Settlement Likely Before Chinese New Year

By SPENCER MOOSA

Peiping, Dec. 31.—New Year approaches with hopes of peace in North China higher than ever. It is generally believed that some sort of settlement will be worked out before the Chinese New Year, which starts on January 29.

Many delicate and complicated factors are involved, one of them, "face" for the Nationalists who must bargain for the best terms they can get.

There is nothing, short of active combat aid by a friendly power, which would extricate the Nationalists in North China from the hopeless military situation in which they find themselves today.

They have only two choices: firstly, to go down fighting and, if necessary, bring Tientsin down in ruins with them or, secondly, reach a peaceful settlement, bitter though it might be. All the present indications point to a conference room accord.

The only question is whether North China will be embraced in a general agreement or be involved in a local one.

The Nationalists here would doubtless prefer the final decision to be made in Nanking, as that would have their "face." But if Nanking decides to go on with the fight at all costs, then the Nationalists here must make up their mind and the Reds could help them by delivering a real attack on Peiping itself, a thing which they have hitherto avoided.

## REDS YIELD GROUND

The Reds yielded ground near Tangku, a suburb of Tientsin, North China, commander General Fu Tse-yi's headquarters claimed.

The Nationalists reoccupied Haingou on the railway to Tientsin, three and a half miles from Tangku.

Headquarters described the situation around Tientsin as unchanged and said no fighting occurred yesterday. Headquarters claimed the Nationalists dispersed small bands of Reds north and east of Taling in Northern Shansi.

In Peiping, General Fu conferred with General Teng Tiao-shan, commander of Nationalist forces in Northern Shensi, who arrived yesterday.

The meetings spurred rumours that any compromise reached in North China might be extended to embrace the provinces of Shensi,

Ninghsia and Chinghai. There were also rumours that Gen. Fu is planning to establish an Associated Press.

## COMMUNISTS MOVE

Tientsin, Dec. 31.—The situation around Tientsin last night was described as uneventful without military action by defending Nationalists.

However, about 30,000 Communist troops at Tientsin, about 12 miles east of Peiping moved westward and are proceeding elsewhere, according to Chinese reports—which observers said would only bring them closer to Peiping.

This, it was thought, might account for the Chinese Air Force reconnaissance flights yesterday morning. Nationalist General Hou Ching-ju, commanding the Tangku-Taku area, telegraphed that the Communist 9th column suffered heavily from shelling by naval guns. Among the casualties claimed was a Communist divisional commander.

Important thoroughfares throughout Tientsin, including streets in the former British Concession in the vicinity of the official residence of the British Consul-General Mr Scott L. Burdett, were being sealed off today by walls of gunny bags as the architects of Tientsin's military defences swung even deeper into the heart of the residential and shopping districts.

Solid sacks of walls were being erected and others were under construction with labour summoned from respective areas, including shopkeepers and white collar workers.



The Editor and his staff  
wish their readers a  
Very Happy  
And Prosperous  
New Year

## Indonesians Won't Talk Peace Until Leaders Released

Paris, Dec. 30.—The Indonesian Republic will not deal with the Dutch while its leaders are imprisoned, the Indonesian delegate Mr L. N. Palar said on Thursday.

## Singapore's Huge New Airport

Singapore, Dec. 30.—Tengah, the Royal Air Force airfield 12 miles north of Singapore, is to be developed into a great international airport for the world's heaviest planes, a Government spokesman announced here today.

The airport was originally planned at Changi, built during the war by British prisoners of the Japanese east of the city, but work on its £23,000,000 development plan was suspended earlier this year because of mud and a shifting subsoil.

It was understood that Singapore was contributing about £750,000 towards the airport, while the British Government would bear most of the rest.

The spokesman was unable to say how much money was spent on Changi before the shifting subsoil was discovered. He declined to comment on rumours that specimens of black mud from Changi had been analysed in London as "blue clay".—Reuter.

## MADAME CHIANG AND PRESIDENT TRUMAN No Further Talks Planned

Washington, Dec. 30.—President Truman said on Thursday he has no further plans to see Madame Chiang Kai-shek and that any word on China aid would be in his message to the United States Congress next week.

Asked at his news conference if he would recommend further aid to the hard pressed Nationalist Government, the President replied only that the subject would appear in his message to the nation's lawmakers.

Mr Palar, who represented the Republic at the United Nations meetings which ended on Wednesday, told a news conference: "No negotiations with the Dutch are possible as long as the leaders of the Republic are imprisoned and as long as the Dutch troops have not been withdrawn to the original truce lines."

President Soekarno and other Indonesian leaders were captured when the Dutch took their capital, Jogjakarta. The Security Council received a report on Wednesday that they had been "assigned residence" in "mountain resorts outside Java."

The Dutch Ambassador Jan Herman Van Royen said they would be released if they promised not to make trouble. This would be done he told the Council, after military action is over. In the Indies—about January 2 or 3. The United States, Russia and other nations expressed displeasure on Wednesday night at the Dutch statement.

## RESISTANCE TO GO ON

U.S. delegate Mr Philip C. Jessup, who left for New York on Thursday said he hoped the Dutch would report compliance with the Council's orders at the next meeting. The Council convenes again at Lake Success on January 6. Last Monday, the Council gave the Netherlands 24 hours to release the Indonesian leaders.

Mr Jessup called the Dutch statement unsatisfactory.

## A World Programme Of Military Assistance

### U.S. GOVT. PLAN

Washington, Dec. 30.—The United States Government will ask the new Congress when it convenes next week to back a world programme of military assistance, enabling the United States to give aid to any "free country" when it is needed, it was learned from State and Defence Department sources today.

The programme will incorporate military aid schemes for Western Europe, Greece and Turkey, and probably China.

The proposed legislation will mention no names and therefore permit the Government broad action to choose any country it thinks needs aid at any given time.

### LEND-LEASE PARALLEL

The scheme will parallel in many respects the wartime lend-lease programme when, despite strong Congressional objections, the President secured power to send "aid to any country whose defence the President considers vital to the defence of the United States."

There will be no separate Western European military defence programme, no self-contained Greek-Turkish scheme and no separate plan for China, the sources said.

Tentative details of these countries' needs will be given in the course of hearings but will not be included in the final legislation.

Unofficial estimates put the cost of the programme in the first year at about \$2,500 million. As the Secretary of Defence, Mr James Forrestal, said yesterday the programme will begin in "modest portions"—about \$200 million for Western Europe, \$350 million for Greece and Turkey, and \$125 million in China—though this depends entirely on the outcome of current events there.

### QUICK ACTION

The State and Defence Department sources laid special stress on the Truman Administration's desire for freedom of action—quick action. The "mention no names" method of approach would allow the Government to make available funds strategically. As membership of the projected North Atlantic defence alliance broadened, new members could be included in the scheme without reference to Congress.

One example of this was said to be the Government's desire to extend military aid to Italy to the limit allowed under the peace treaty.

Italy is not likely to become an immediate member of the North Atlantic Pact, but the global programme would allow her to be given aid without any new legislation.—Reuter.

## Steamer Aground

Newhaven Sussex, Dec. 30.—The cross-Channel steamer Arramanches, returning to Newhaven from Dieppe, France, with 344 passengers, went aground just outside the harbour here in a gale tonight.

The Arramanches later got away under her own power. Arrangements had been made for a tug to help her. She is a vessel of 2,600 tons, owned by the French National Railways.—Reuter.

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# Give us more women like these



Leonard Moseley At The Films

I TOOK a couple of 'young friends of mine along to see the new British film "THE GUINEA PIG," and a new American film, "ON OUR MERRY WAY."

Both films are about on the same level of enjoyment and competence. So I asked my friends which of them they preferred.

"The American film," they said. "Except for the big prestige pictures, we usually prefer the Americans. American films always have 'Women in them.'"

Somewhat agog at this unexpected sex-approach to the criticism of the film, I mildly pointed out that "The Guinea Pig" had not been entirely devoid of females. There had, for instance, been pretty little Sheila Sim, as an officer in the Wrens, and a couple of other girls still well on the sunny side of the autumnal thirties.

I regret to report that this reminder was received with a gesture of contempt. "Do you mean to say you are going to compare any of them with the girls we saw in the American film—Paulette Goddard, Dorothy Lamour, and that one who played the trumpet in her bathing suit?" they asked in derision.

"Don't you see the point?" they said. "Even in the most ordinary American film there's always a woman you will notice. But who ever remembers the females in British pictures?"

Now I think my friends have something. I have seen about 60 British pictures this year. Save for little Jean Simmons, I honestly can't conjure up a vision of a single girl who played in them.

British studios seem with charming and talented women, some of whom can even act. But I think they carry too far the British habit of understatement, both in looks and personality. I come away from their films with a feeling they are filled with a quaint and cold tea rather than good, rich blood.

Until British films pick up a few women with the looks of Ava Gardner, the bounce of Paulette Goddard, the "bite" of Vivienne Romance and Micheline Presle—the best productions will still have something lacking.

The trouble with too many of our actresses, and with the men who direct them, is that they think there is something slightly indecent in being too female. If they don't want to learn from the Americans, then they should take lessons from the French. Even in their most

artistic production there is always a round form in the foreground, exuding sex. Vive la France, I say.

## Wins giggles

"ON OUR MERRY WAY" is a mad film about a clerk in the want-ad department (Burgess Meredith) who poses as a roving reporter and goes out to ask people what effect a baby has had on their lives.

The "baby" that dance-band musicians James Stewart and Henry Fonda remember is a grown-up girl with a shape. She not only looked well but could play better than they could, and in an hilariously uproarious sequence they describe how she lost them their jobs and took their band away from them. Dorothy Lamour remembers the petulant child-star who was nasty to her, and then to win her forgiveness persuaded her to wear a sarong for the first time. This gives Miss Lamour an opportunity of doing a beautiful satire, in song, of the parts she has to play with Messrs. Bing Crosby and Bob Hope.

It is a crazy picture, with not an atom of sense to a real of it. But you will giggle through most of it and laugh lots of the time. You will also see Miss Lamour, Miss Goddard, and the girl with the shape being Women.

## Full of humour

"THE GUINEA PIG" is a clinical study of what goes on in an English public school.

Richard Attenborough is the son of a poor tobacconist in Pimlico who is sent on a scholarship to a great public school, to see whether boys from two different worlds can mix.

He has a bad time of it at first. He resents being ragged, resents having to "fag" for the prefects, resents having to bend over and be kicked. (In describing this ordeal to a master, he uses a word that has never before been passed by a film censor.) But naturally—it being one of those stories—everything comes out right in the end, and Dickie gets his Rugby cap, his prefect's blazer, and a scholarship to Cambridge.

You will gather from this description that it is a film full of peculiar English snobberies. But once you have accepted them, this is a picture full of humour and not without its moments of pathos.

## NOVELLO PLANS ANOTHER

IVOR NOVELLO, top-earner among British actors, is well advanced on a big new musical play—his seventh—for London. He is content to wait for production until he gets the right theatre and cast.

He can well afford to wait. Novello at 55 is making more money than ever before in his career. Three of his musical shows—Glamorous Night, The Dancing Years and Perchance to Dream—are now touring the country simultaneously; a record for one author-composer. Novello is starring in the last-named.

Between them the box-office takings total a weekly average of £12,000. Novello's over-all "cut," including his salary as performer, brings him approximately 10 per cent of this—£1,200 a week. Only Hollywood's biggest top-liners come into his income bracket.

Glamorous Night is being presented under the management of Ralph Reader and William Sutton; in the Drury Lane run 13 years ago they were dance producer and theatre call-boy respectively. Their savings are invested in the present venture; first three months' takings have reached £40,000.



Bing Crosby and his dog invade the Tyrolean Alps and the heart of a Countess (Joan Fontaine) in the Technicolor musical "The Emperor Waltz," which opens at the Queen's and the Alhambra today.



New Year greetings to Hongkong Telegraph readers from the Hollywood star Yvonne De Carlo.

## What have they done to poor Charlie?

WHAT went wrong with "Bonnie Prince Charlie"? How could anybody make a dull film of that rich, romantic story, with all its colour and emotion?

Yet that is what has happened.

People of taste, intelligence, and proven skill—Alexander Korda, Anthony Kimmins, Clemence Dane, David Niven—spent time, energy, thought, and a reputed £1,000,000, and "Bonnie Prince Charlie" is a quarter of an hour's worth of cerebral Technicolour that couldn't stir even a Scotsman like myself, who is a natural push-over for bagpipes, Highland scenery, and the Jacobite story.

I suppose Korda, as the boss of the enterprise, must bear the blame. Perhaps he thought the story was so obviously cinematic that it was foolproof.

Most uncharacteristically, he has allowed a shapeless script, devoid of pattern or climax, to moulder across the screen. Worse, he has permitted scenes of studio-made unreality of the sort for which we jeer at Hollywood.

## IN FANCY DRESS

IT is not that grave damage is done to history. Nor are the beauties of Scotland entirely absent. There are some lovely shots, which merely show up the others.

It is just that conviction is never achieved. Thus the big episodes—the gathering of the clans, the Edinburgh ball, Prestonpans, the turning-point at Derby, the carnage of Culloden—failed to make me feel I was watching anything but actors in fancy dress.

David Niven, likeable as he is, never makes Charles a real, far less

an authentic character. He comes to life only in the late scenes with Flora Macdonald, and at that point it is Margaret Leighton who really makes one feel. She alone rises above the weakness of part and picture and is as effective as she is beautiful.

## MAUGHAM FILMED

HOW unpredictable the cinema is. If "Bonnie Prince Charlie" seemed, in advance, a film certainty, "Quartet" had the dice loaded against it.

Four quite separate Somerset Maugham stories, Prologue and tailpiece by the author, photographed sitting at a desk. The whole structure would surely be literary, a deadweight against illusion, which is the screen's business.

But no. Mr. Maugham makes us laugh right at the start, the ideal comper for his own entertainment. The stories are not equally good, but the first and the last ("The Facts of Life" and "The Colonel's Lady") are first-class, crisply told, convincingly acted, and the taste they leave in the mouth is of a well-chosen meal, with the good wine of a wise wit for fuller satisfaction.

In other words for once the true flavour of Maugham comes through to the screen. And that despite two endings which censorship (or fear of it) has damaged, though not destroyed.

Jack Watling and Mal Zetterling distinguish themselves in the first episode, Cecil Parker, Nora Swinburne, and Lana Turner in the last. In the middle two, "The Alien Corn" and "The Kite," there are attractive performances by Frances Ross and George Cole, and fun from Hermione Baddeley, though she gives a rogue touch to what should be lifelike.

—STEPHEN WATTS.

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M-G-M's Color Cartoon: "Mouse in the House"

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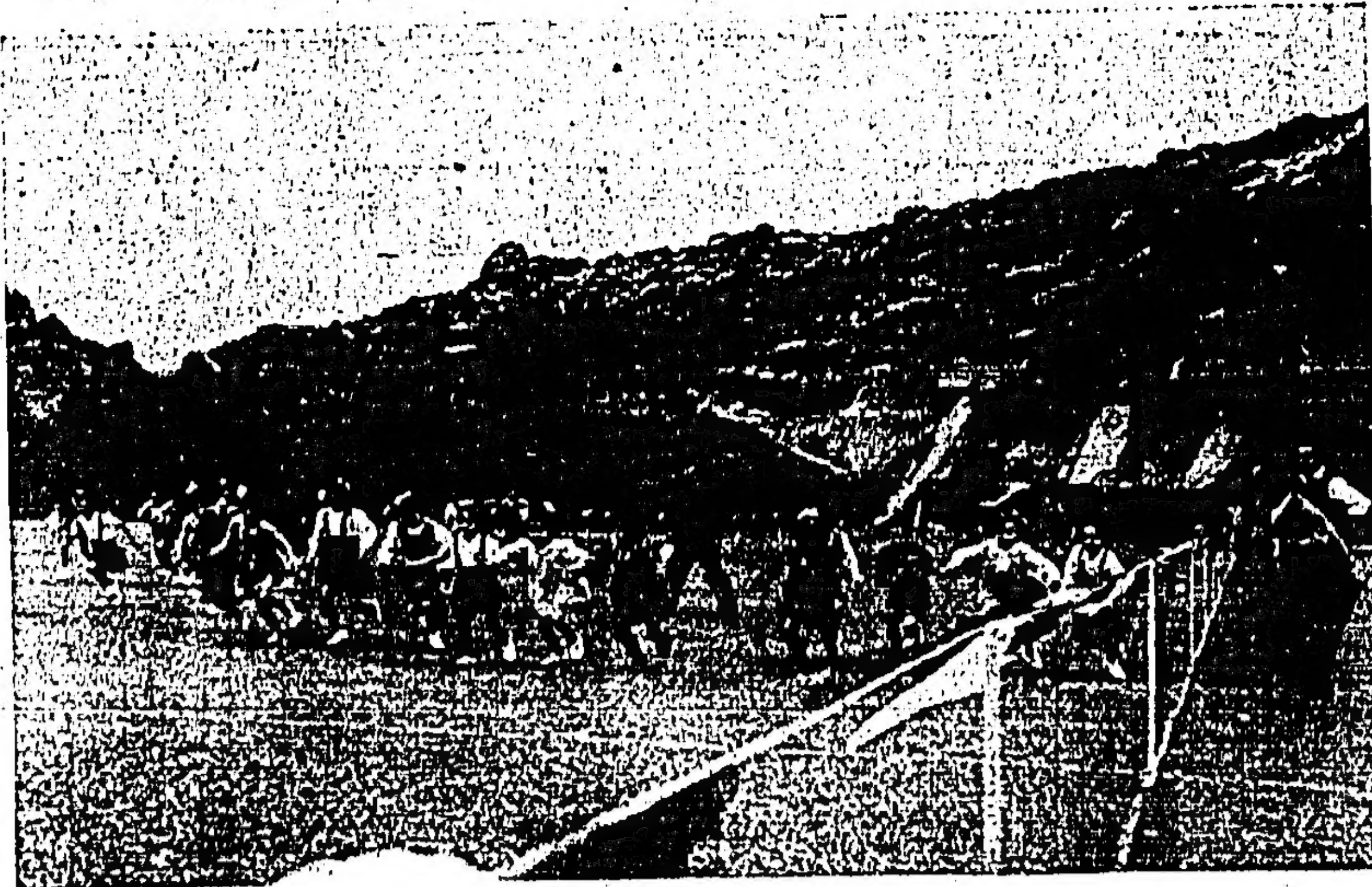








DR George Choa Wing-sien, medical officer of the Queen Mary Hospital, and Miss Maisie Nora Kotowall, daughter of Sir Robert and the late Lady Kotowall, were married at St Joseph's Church on Monday, the Rt Rev. Bishop Henry Valtorta officiating. Dr and Mrs Choa are seen above following the church ceremony, and, at right, at the reception at the Hongkong Hotel. (Telegraph Staff Photographer)



ONE of the many races being run off at the children's sports, organised by the Club de Recreio on Boxing Day. (Telegraph Staff Photographer)



MR Hans Ernest Waany and his bride, formerly Miss Ada Mary Beatrice Morton. They were married at St John's Cathedral on Monday. (Telegraph Staff Photographer)



PICTURE below shows members of the staff of the South China Morning Post, Ltd. who attended the second Christmas tiffin at the Staff Canteen last Friday. (Telegraph Staff Photographer)



MR George Allan Rodney Wright-Nooth, Assistant Superintendent of Police, and Miss Frances Mary Gregory, of the Women's Volunteer Services, leaving St John's Cathedral after their wedding last week. (Telegraph Staff Photographer)



TWO scenes at the Christmas party given by the Wah Yan College Boys' Club, whose members are mainly boys earning their living as shoeblacks. (Telegraph Staff Photographer)



RIGHT: Mr Donald Fraser leading carollers in the grounds of Government House last week. (Telegraph Staff Photographer)



THE officers of the ss Hanyang were hosts at a party given on board the ship on Boxing Day. Pictures above were taken on the occasion. (Telegraph Staff Photographer)



A HAPPY group of Wolf Cubs pose for a picture after a Christmas party at Christ Church, Kowloon Tong, last week. (Telegraph Staff Photographer)



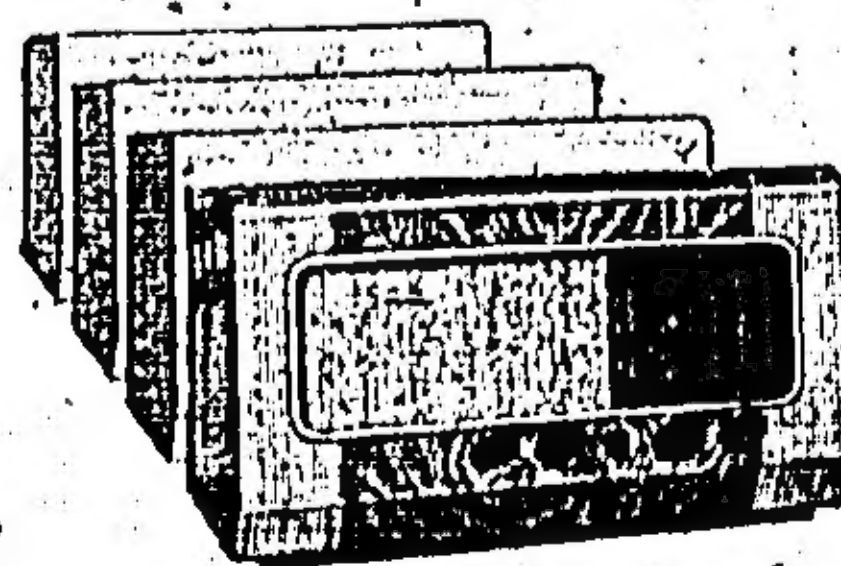
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# WEEK-END WOMANSENSE

## LIGHT, AIRY STYLES SEEN IN THE FOG

By JOAN ERSKINE

**W**HILE all London suffered under a blanket of thick gray fog early this month—the worst for years, which reduced visibility to a matter of yards, slowed up traffic, and masked the windows of the London Model House showrooms—there was an air of pleasant unreality about seeing more of next season's light and airy styles for spring and early summer.

In the Brenner Sports salon no fewer than eight models showed a collection of tailored dress and jacket ensembles, afternoon and evening dresses, and playclothes of every description.

Favourites were the cottons—right for a garden party, perfect for promenading—and complete with matching parasols. Most eye-catching outfit was in blue and white Swiss-trimmed cotton (rather like seersucker) with boat neckline and apron front, trimmed with white rickrack braid. The parasol, in the same material, had a rough wooden handle and was also trimmed with rickrack. Handbags made with basket bottoms and drawstring material tops also matched the dresses.

### PIRATES' BREECHES

**PIRATES'** breeches in pale blue linen, fitting tightly below the knee, had a mixed reception. They looked a little difficult to relax in. Blue linen jeans, thonged with lime, had a matching bolero. Tiny shorts with corset waist, in tan linen, were shown with a brief tan bolero—a youthful Buster-Keel effect.

Many of the sun dresses were strapless, with matching boleros. A particularly attractive, though very simply designed one, was in pale blue linen-type rayon trimmed with white braid, illustrated here.

A drawback to the strapless casual dress is that a boned brassiere is necessary, and this is not always ideal for very hot weather.

The bolero seems to be gaining in popularity, for both formal and informal occasions. High waisted, too, were not only a feature of dresses and skirts, but of shorts and jumpsuits.

Suit jackets were all quite long. Skirts were slim, some split, others pleated—but not all round. Groups of sunray pleats inside deep inverted pleats gave a straight slender line.

Typical Brenner two-piece is illustrated here. The skirt has a flat panel at the back, which not only gives a good line, but prevents the inevitable "sitting-out" of the pleats. It is in petrol-blue with a narrow double stripe of navy. The bodice of the dress has short cuffed sleeves and a tucked vest effect. It is finished with a white pique bow at the neck.

### MISTY CHECKS

**F**INE misty checks in soft colourings are used for most of the suits. Do you remember the very popular Glen Urquhart suit? During the war it was hard to find anyone who did not possess a glencheck suit, but this is the first revival since then.

Many suits had cowed hoods attached to the jackets, which looked equally decorative over the head or lying back as a collar.

Cocktail dresses were often strapless, with elbow-length capes, long stoles, and sequin embroidery. For those who have refused to part with their long hair, there was a sequin-spangled bun-net. A triangular brilliant-studded scarf tied either round the neck or the waist of another dress.

Loveliest materials were bronze grosgrain, and satin the colour of burnt sugar. Smartest were the crisp navy and white plaques and linens. Navy-blue seems to be replacing black for next season.

QUEEN MARY-style toques are shown in a Bond Street milliner's window. For day wear swathed felt is used with feather trimming in soft colours. For evening wear beautiful pieces of brocade and rich satins are used, with bead and jet embroidery. It simply bears out the much-quoted remark that if only you keep a thing long enough, it is almost bound to come back into fashion.



Two dresses described by Joan Erskine. Left: a pale blue linen strapless sun dress with matching bolero. Above: Petrol blue two-piece with narrow double stripes of navy. Both are by Brenner Sports.

## New cardigans are almost hip-length

by SUSAN DEACON

**T**IME now to think of warm sweaters and fine wool blouses to wear with your winter suits. As a vital part of accessory planning they surely deserve more detailed thought than they get.

Men show greater discrimination in their choice of shirts than many women do in their selection of a blouse or sweater. A rainbow-hued open-work jumper—a labour of love though it may be—has ruined the chances of many a good suit.

For day wear a sweater should be perfectly plain and collarless—if it is hand-knitted it should be of fine stocking stitch or ribbing. Confine ruffles and glamour to blouses.

The only possible exception is the woman with a fuller figure—a patterned sweater in a plain colour is a happier choice for her.

### Try Trying Them On

For too many women buy sweaters and cardigans without first trying them on. You would never consider buying a dress without first trying it for size, and it is even more important that knitwear should fit well.

When a sweater is new it should tend to fit a little loosely—a clinging sweater can be a social embarrassment.

There were new trends in knitwear seen in London this autumn; many cardigans are longer—almost hip length—and snugly belted.

Several knitwear manufacturers have followed the fashion silhouette of the model dress houses, and jumpers, too, have sloping shoulders and dolman sleeves.

A recent innovation from America is the sweater in the smoothest of wool jersey. Its charm lies in its utter simplicity—a straight "boat" neckline—deep "bat-wing" sleeves—and it is smartest in black.



Evening blouse

## Tests Aid Liver Disorders

By HERMAN N. BUNDESEN

**W**ITH the increasing frequency of liver disorders, particularly in those of middle age and older, it is important that abnormal conditions be discovered as early as possible, because, with proper treatment, the progress of many of these disorders may be checked. There are a number of tests which can be made to determine the manner in which the liver is carrying on its many activities and which aid the doctor in determining what medical or surgical treatment may be required. Just which of the tests should be carried out depends, to some extent, on the symptoms present.

For example, if the patient has jaundice due to a collection of bile pigments in the blood and tissues, a large series of tests is suggested. Some of these include testing of the urine for the presence of certain bile pigments. Another test is made on the blood to determine the amount of bilirubin, a bile pigment, in the blood serum. It is important to determine the amount of cholesterol in the blood, since the cholesterol may be excessive in certain disorders producing jaundice. Cholesterol is a substance which is found throughout the body, and is normally present in the blood.

Another test commonly used is known as the bromsulphalein test. The bromsulphalein, a dye, is injected into a vein and the amount retained in the body determined at the end of 40 minutes. The bromsulphalein test is not used when jaundice is present.

### Needle Biopsy

If, by means of these various tests, the exact type of disorder of the liver cannot be determined, it may be necessary to remove a small bit of tissue from the liver for examination under the microscope. This material can be obtained by what is known as a needle biopsy, in which a large needle is pushed through the abdominal wall into the liver so that some of the liver tissue can be carried out. This procedure should be done only in a hospital, and only when it is certain that the blood clots properly, since there is always danger of bleeding in this type of procedure.

If the tissue cannot be secured satisfactorily in this manner, it may be necessary to open the abdomen surgically to obtain the liver tissue for examination.

Persons having symptoms of liver disorder should consult their physician promptly, so that the necessary tests may be carried out to determine what disorder is present. In middle-aged and older persons such tests should be made once or twice a year, even if no symptoms are present.

## NICE TOUCH IN FANCY BUTTONS

By ELEANOR ROSS

**T**HE new clothes are really beautiful, with special emphasis on apparel in the budget brackets. Since the new things have a modified "new look," how about going through your wardrobe, combing out last year's mistakes (every wardrobe has such skeletons) and planning a make-over job? A taking in of seams, a little alteration in the region of the neckline, plus an original twist in ornamentation, is all that is necessary to put into circulation a frock that has proved a disappointment.

One of the best methods of lending a new note is through a clever use of beautiful buttons. For instance a satin frock, purchased in the first flush of the new fashions last year, has had a good slimming job done on the skirt. The high neckline was cut into a deep scooped oval. Opal-jewelled buttons done in oval. Opal-jewelled buttons done in oval. Opal-jewelled buttons done in oval.

Earrings created from similar buttons completed a delightful ensemble, the navy satin shirt-waist frock with its jewelled touches being perfect for important afternoons.

### Flashing Cubes

A search revealed just the right buttons to dress up a jacquard fall suit of last Spring. The fabric has a woven square dot, and so flashing rhinestone cube buttons repeat the rounded mood and give the simple suit a custom dressmaker look.

Use buttons, too, in order to create little individualised accessory touches. If a strapless bodice seems just a wee bit too much, how about treating the evening frock to a single shoulder strap? Use two-inch velvet, taffeta or satin ribbon or a strap of the fabric if you have some at hand. Blas the strap across the shoulder and catch it in place with a giant jewel button, a rhinestone or opal cluster set on a gold wire loop. Cement another to a pin and use it to ornament a shoulder or the top of a glove. Highlight the hair with a barrette to match your frock in colour or fabric. Six-inch wide ribbon and two large rhinestone studded buttons in diamond stick style do the trick.



The "bat-wing" sleeved sweater, with straight "boat" neckline.

It really can be worn throughout the day, and is as frequently seen worn with pearls beneath a suit as it is at parties, together with a full and pretty skirt.

For evenings these plain sweaters are often sprinkled with single pearls or sequins, or worn with your chunkiest jewellery.

Although wool is everything in our winter lives, there are many women who prefer to wear a blouse, and extra warmth beneath it.

Blouses this season have never been prettier. Jabots are back—wide and flat, and fastened with a pearl tie-pin, or frilly, lacy, and very feminine.

Lace frills are worn at the wrist, and lace round a high Chinese collar on a plain blouse front.

But frills and lace edging lose all their charm if they are not crisp and frost white.

One hears much about the new "off-black" shades from Paris, but off-white is merely grubby.

### Plain Neckline

The over-blouse, which can be worn without a jacket, is news this season, and it is always a good plan to keep the neckline plain, using it as a background for costume jewellery.

A constant favourite of the career girl is the shirt waist or tailored blouse, and it can be worn off duty open-necked and with a tartan scarf. Lingerie blouses, with black velvet slotted through lace insertions, are popular, but the ribbon must be very narrow, and should not be repeated at frequent intervals on the yoke, sleeves, and neckline.

### Only For Evenings

The big news story in blouses this season is the off-the-shoulder or goose-girl neckline, but only for evening wear, and, I'm afraid, only for the under-thirties.

It has a youthful sophistication—the perfect companion for the new ballerina-length skirts.

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## What is causing women to droop? 25% more ailments than men

**T**HE women of Britain are not well. They are not invalids or even absentees from work to any great extent, but they go about their daily duties feeling below par.

When they do go to the doctor, it is many doctors' view that they do not know what is wrong with them. But the symptoms they describe are always roughly the same. They are easily tired. They lack energy. They suffer from shortness of breath if they exert themselves.

Everything is an effort—which worries and depresses them. The doctors call it lassitude. They find just what they expect to find—low blood pressure and varying degrees of anaemia.

I have discussed this prevalent condition, which is affecting young women as well as older ones, with a dozen doctors of widely different types of practice.

### YEARS OF STRAIN

Anaemia, several said, is the basis of most current ill-health among women.

"There has been an enormous increase," one said. "Where I was treating eight new cases a year, I now have as many as a month. I have never in my life seen so many anaemic women as now come to me."

The cause, doctors say, is partly nutritional and partly the years of strain, overwork and worry. One doctor called them "the years of far too much standing about."

Especially in the case of expectant mothers, doctors put their finger on a fault in the new health service.

Clintons are not allowed to prescribe. So, after a woman has attended for advice and been told she needs iron to counteract anaemic tendencies, she is referred back to her own doctor for a certificate to take to the chemist.

This means going to her doctor's surgery, and probably a long wait. Either she hasn't the time or she doesn't take the trouble—and goes without the iron she needs.

### NOT ENOUGH IRON

"Rations," doctors say, "are deficient in iron. Liver, kidney, red meat—the principal sources of iron—are very scarce."

"Nobody is going to eat spinach all the time!"

Anaemic lassitude is particularly prevalent among married women who have had a child or two, even where the mother is no older than the late twenties.

"They just lack kick," said one doctor. The last health survey showed seven in every ten housewives "complaining"—that is, when asked if they were well or ill, said that they "weren't well."

Women suffer 25 percent more minor ailments than men, but even

Child health is on the whole good, but—as one doctor put it—children have more difficulty in getting themselves born.

His experience shows a lower fertility rate than before the war. Women are not so prone to pregnancy. Also they have a greater tendency to miscarry.

### BOMBING BLAMED

Mothers often blame the experience of bombing for any weakness or abnormality in wartime children. Doctors say this is generally nonsense.

Young children who lived through air raids, unless physically injured, were totally unaffected by the experience.

But babies born during or even after the raid periods sometimes did suffer through their mothers.

Strain and emotional disturbance had its postwar effect on women in nervous disorders, chronic fatigue and depression, and premature ageing.

One general practitioner finds that the most difficult—and, in his view, the most pathetic—patients are the middle-aged and approaching "elderly" of both sexes.

"Far too many people who were in their prime before the war over-drew on their future income of nervous energy. They were keyed up during the war, felt they had to keep going, and, since 1945, they have been running down far too fast."

### THEIR MONEY'S WORTH

A busy suburban G.P. had this theory about the present medical situation:—

Unconsciously, many people are looking for a scapegoat for that 4s. 11d. (or 3s. 10d.) a week they have to pay. They scan the benefits and say to themselves:—

"Unemployment? No good to me. I'm working. I hope I'll never need that."

"Retirement? Not for years yet. Death? Lot of use that'll ever be to me. Maternity? I'm not even married."

"Medicine—ah! That's where I can get my money's worth." So they become without really realising they're doing it—illegions—conscious to an extent undreamed of before.

And, this doctor argues, by so transferring what are really political and economic sensations to the realm of bodily health, they genuinely accentuate their ailments.

Stephen Watts



by EVE  
PERRICK





PICTURE taken at St Teresa's Church on Boxing Day on the occasion of the wedding of Flight Lieutenant Noel Andrew John Griffin and Miss Hazel Adeline Scott. (Moo Cheung)



THE two pictures on the right were taken during the Christmas dance for the Forces held at the Union Jack Club. (Telegraph Staff Photographer)



MR Tsang Tin-wai and Miss Tsoi Shuk-tin, who were married at the Hongkong Hotel on Monday. (Francis Wu)



GROUP photo taken at St Andrew's Church last Saturday after the christening of Paul Nicholas, infant son of Mr and Mrs J. T. Mallorio. (Ming Yuen)



MRS M. C. Honess distributed the Christmas regatta prizes at the Royal Hongkong Yacht Club on Monday. Some of the winners are seen here receiving their trophies. Top to bottom: Mr Van Sydow; Messrs T. O. Morgan, D. Sherrieff and P. D. A. Chidell; Mr F. J. Crosbie. (Telegraph Staff Photographer)



MR Leslie Thomas Reed and Miss Phyllis Ivy Boome, whose wedding took place at St Andrew's Church recently. (Goldon Studio)



A HAPPY group of children who attended the Christmas party given last week by the Little Flower Club. (Moo Cheung)



CAPT Arthur Bridgford and Mrs Nina Goldenborg photographed with their attendants after their marriage at St John's Cathedral on Monday. (Ming Yuen)

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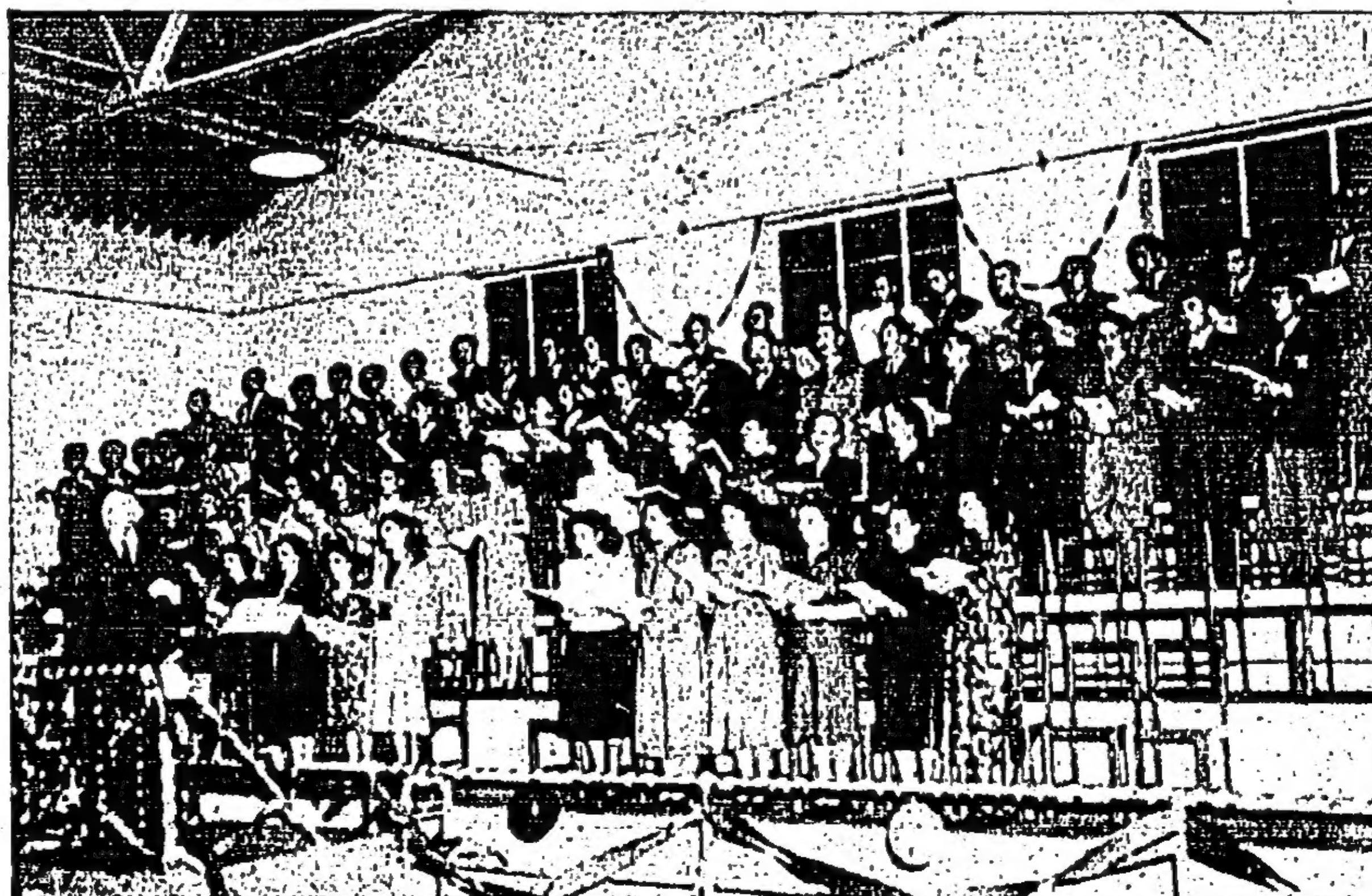
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PICTURE taken at the Eu Tong-sen Gymnasium during a carol concert given by the Hongkong University Christian Association. (Ming Yuen)

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that in any other case. In  
first place, the life of  
prisoner may well hang

The roncitr (Rutilus rutilus), v  
is the object of their wo

I know a taxi-driver in this c  
On a fine Sunday before  
war he used to cram his cab  
with friends and fishing gear and  
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## INTERNATIONAL FINALISTS

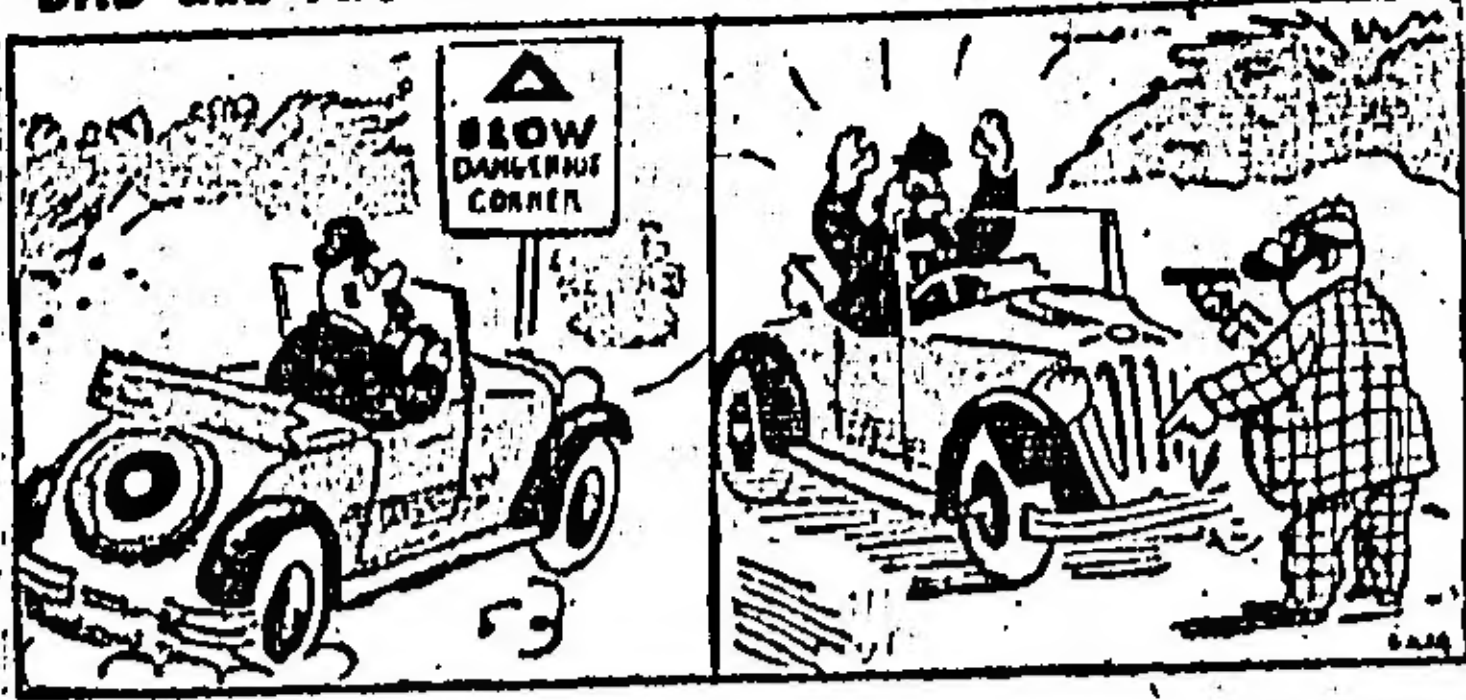
Ying-keo (Kitcheo), Kiernan (Club) and Omar (St Josephs).  
Although there are better full-backs individually than either Rocha or Hsu, the choice of a pair who are accustomed to each other's style of play commends itself.  
It seems strange to see Hsu Yung-sang's name among the reserves: it

1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 2679, 2680, 26



## DAB and FLOUNDER

By WALTER



FROM HERE AND THERE:

## THE (OSTRICH) FEATHERS FLEW

**CAPETOWN:** People waiting on the aerodrome for a light plane to land at Worcester, 80 miles from Capetown, were attacked by two wild ostriches, which eventually to be shot before the plane could land.

## LONG LIFE RECIPE

**NEW YORK:** A centenarian, Francesco La Sala, of Bronxville, New York, broke away from the usual recipes for longevity. His recipe—a daily dozen, plenty of home-made wine, big black cigars, and playing cards all night.

## BACHELORS-BEWARE

**VIENNA:** A Viennese lawyer, Leddihn, aged 76, has asked permission of the Austrian Minister of the Interior to form a "Reform party." The main point of the party's programme is the introduction of compulsory marriage for all bachelors between 30 and 65; Leddihn told a press conference.

## FLASH-BACK

**CAPETOWN:** Saved from drowning in the surf near Kommetjie, Aubrey Lehmann, 47, a visitor from New York, broke through his mind while in the water, but more important, he had finally remembered where he had hidden his gold watch.

## FULL EMPLOYMENT

**MELBOURNE:** The keenest competition in Australian business is for office boys and junior typists who are disdainful even of fabulous wages, wheeling promises of light work and considerable treatment. The highest bid is made by a Sydney firm which offers a bicycle to any boy who will stay one year and has plastered its front window with an invitation to passing boys to come inside to view the bicycle and be persuaded by a respectful boss. Even this brings more promises to "think it over" than purposeful applications. The boss says "When I was a boy a messenger was a slave and drudge. Now he is everybody's

pet. They watch his whims and his pockets are always full of cigarettes, toffee and sixpences."

## WHAT NEXT?

**WASHINGTON:** A breakfast tray of glass which radiates enough infrared heat to fry eggs, make toast and warm coffee, but not enough to damage the bed-clothes, will soon come on the market.

## SQUAD 'SHUN—PLEASE

**NEW YORK:** Orders have gone out to sergeants training recruits for America's peacetime army to say "please" to the recruits as often as possible.

## HIGH RANKING CLUB

**STOCKHOLM:** A tall men's club has been formed here. Members in good standing must measure at least seven feet. There is a junior member division where 6 ft. 7 in. is the minimum requirement. One hundred and sixty feet of members enrolled on the first day. They came from all walks of life, including policemen, actors, and circus freaks.

## NEW(S) STORY

**NEW YORK:** Robert Jung, a Swiss correspondent, has produced a newspaper at his own expense to settle a breakfast table argument with his wife—that there is never any good news nowadays. His paper, which will be circulated free to about 150 readers while his money lasts, prints only good news. Samples—50,000 Arabs live peacefully in Palestine, juvenile delinquency drops in Ohio, better drinking water for Pennsylvania. Said owner Jung: "I'm tired of the scare telegram and the terrible times."

## SECOND BERNADETTE?

**MADRID:** A small girl claiming to have seen and talked with the Virgin Mary on several occasions, accompanied by doctors, priests and thousands of people the girl stands with her hands together. "I can see the Virgin standing near the oak. She is surrounded by a bright light," the girl says. Ecclesiastical authorities are looking into the matter.

# A Briton always pays

THE SORCERER'S AP-  
PRENTICE. By Elspeth  
Huxley. Chatto and Windus.  
18s. 386 pages.

THIS book ought to have two things: (1) a large public; (2) an index. It should have the public because it gives a first-hand, expert impression of contemporary East Africa, a strategically vital segment of the earth's surface. The photographs alone are an education in the scale, beauty, squalor and complexity of the land.

As for the index, no book of this factual nature is doing its job efficiently if it lacks the basic equipment for reference. Anybody who supposes that there is a single African problem with a simple solution will have his assurance ruffled by Mrs Huxley. While exploitation? But here are wealthy negro landowners paying not a penny in income-tax while alongside them job-very-rich British District Commissioners pay 9s. in the £.

African superstition should be wiped out? Quite so. But if, in wiping it out, you destroy traditional morality—what then?

Better medical and veterinary services? Most desirable. Yet Africa has already more men and animals than it can keep alive and healthy by existing methods of

George Malcolm Thomson on the NEW BOOKS

agriculture. The Sorcerer's Apprentice is a record of achievement as well as a catalogue of perplexities.

For instance, the 1943 defeat of the locust invasion. But for the Anti-Locust Directorate and its intelligence service, tens of thousands of the King's subjects would have starved. One of the few swarms to break through destroyed a thousand acres of wheat in one night.

There are white men who groan about the Government and white men who groan about the country. White men who dream dazzling dreams of progress—and other white men who fall in love with the native way of life. Like the District Officer who turned in a Government House, Nairobi, in the costume of the arms of a Masai warrior.

The White Man's Burden is no more form of words. Mrs Huxley

even seems to wonder at times why the British taxpayer pursues his expensive, intoxicating, but so often discouraging task.

Fido perhaps. Not the expectation of thanks.

THE MEMOIRS OF COR-  
DELL HULL. Two volumes.  
Hodder and Stoughton. 50s.  
1804 pages.

IF YOU wish to know how distrust grew up between the Western Powers and Russia, consult Chapter 100 (page 1451). Churchill wished Russia to "play the hand" in Rumania, Hungary and Bulgaria in 1944. He thought it was possible to concede this, without agreeing that the Kremlin should have a sphere of influence there. Mr Hull was not so optimistic.

Meredit. By Siegfried Sassoon. Constable. 15s. 269 pages.

IN THE Tate Gallery is—or was—a painting of Chatterton, dead. The model for it was Meredit. The painter was the man who ran off with Meredit's first wife. Meredit was the son of a tailor and secretly believed himself to be of noble origin. As a novelist he was damned by brilliance. Failure pursued him through a great part of his writing career. When, at length, success came, the taste of failure lingered.

Employed as a reader for Chapman and Hall, he rejected Quixote, East Lynne, Erehwon and a meteoric success called The Heavenly Twins.

On rejected MSS he would write notes like: "The dullness of vivid liveliness marks the style of this work." "Written in signs of language."

He would have made a good book reviewer.

EVERY IDLE DREAM. By Bernard Darwin. Collins. 12s. 6d. 255 pages.

MR DARWIN writes so well that after a few practice strokes on Tin Soldiers, A Day in Bed, and Watch- ing Cricket, he takes a full tea-shot to Sherlockiana: The Faith of a Fundamentalist.

It is not because it is a condition of enjoyment in reading that the writer should first have enjoyed writing, the essays in Every Idle Dream will spread joy everywhere they are read. The book is a pleasant companion for easy chair and sick bed.

—DANIEL GEORGE.

## OH! THE VANITY OF AUTHORS!

"NO ORDINARY CHEYNEY." By Peter Cheyney.  
(Faber, 9s. 6d.)

MR PETER CHEYNEY writes novels about crime. They are read apparently by the kind of people who do not object to being called "Cheyney fans."

But I do not believe they are as amiable and easily pleased

Peter Cheyney



as the blurb to his latest book suggests. It describes this as an "ideal present" for them. The book opens with an embarrassingly unfunny piece about "sinister, unwashed critics, smelling vaguely of garlic, and living unmentionable lives." It closes with an "appeal" to reviewers. Between these puerilities Mr Cheyney

has spatchcocked what looks to me like litter disinterred from the bottom drawer of his desk.

Lamentable bits of verse ("Oh let me back to Wales again, where I may breathe of God's good air") are jumbled up with odds and ends of execratable facetiousness, articles which have appeared in periodicals, and two or three stories.

The stories are tolerable. The other stuff is not. Evidently his best friends have shrunk from telling him: "Stick to crime, old man; don't try to be funny."

His book is an illustration of the vanity of authors. Not content with fame as the best-selling of all best-sellers, he craves the esteem of the intellectuals. My information is that some of them read him in secret.

That ought to satisfy him. Mr Cheyney's spare time could be more profitably devoted to mastering the simple grammatical rule which governs the use of "who" and "whom."



"Should auld acquaintance be forgot—I'll swap yer two dozen pair o' nylons for a case o' Scotch, Charlie, boy—and never brought to mind."

## YOU MAY KNOW THIS FAMILY...

"THE FIFTH CHILD," by James Courage  
(Constable, 8s. 6d.)

A DOMESTIC novel—that never sounds exciting, but try this one. The scene is New Zealand; and the characters are real.

Hubert Warner is a prosperous sheep farmer. His wife, Florence, mother of four children, is, at the age of 46, with indignation rather than pleasure, expecting another. She has come into town for the winter and rented a furnished house. With her are Susan and Alec, the younger children. Her almost grown-up son and daughter, Ronald and Barbara, are away at college.

After 20 years of hard work on the farm, the respite for Mrs. Warner is like the fulfilment of a comforting dream. Why, she asks herself, has she never before known such freedom? Why need she return to the dreary round of duties?

Between herself and her husband there is no longer any love. Always unsentimental, he is now as irascible as he is efficient.

He can manage without her, she decides. She has money of her own. When her baby is born she will stay on in town. She has moments of blissful happiness in contemplating the future.

But there are, of course, the children. In the present they constitute problems. Young Susan and Alec, attending a day school in the town, keep her occupied—two such graceless, bickering, untidy, unruly, silly, human, pathetic and lovable children. The older pair are no easier to handle. Barbara, vain, inconsiderate, is deep in her first romance. Ronald, the elder son, on the threshold of manhood, is preoccupied about his career.

Patently, tactfully, Mrs. Warner controls them all. When her baby is born, her vision of freedom vanishes. She realises that she cannot evade her responsibilities. She must return to the farm.

In its presentation of husband-and-wife and parents-and-children relationships, in its characters, and in the situation which develops, you will find something unusual here. What is unusual is its likeness to life unadorned by fancy.

## VIGNETTES OF LIFE

"Things to Be Thankful For"  
By KEMP STARRETT



SOME MEN ARE THANKFUL, NOT FOR HEALTH OR RICHES, BUT JUST THAT THE WIFE ISN'T A MIND-READER... ALL THE TIME.



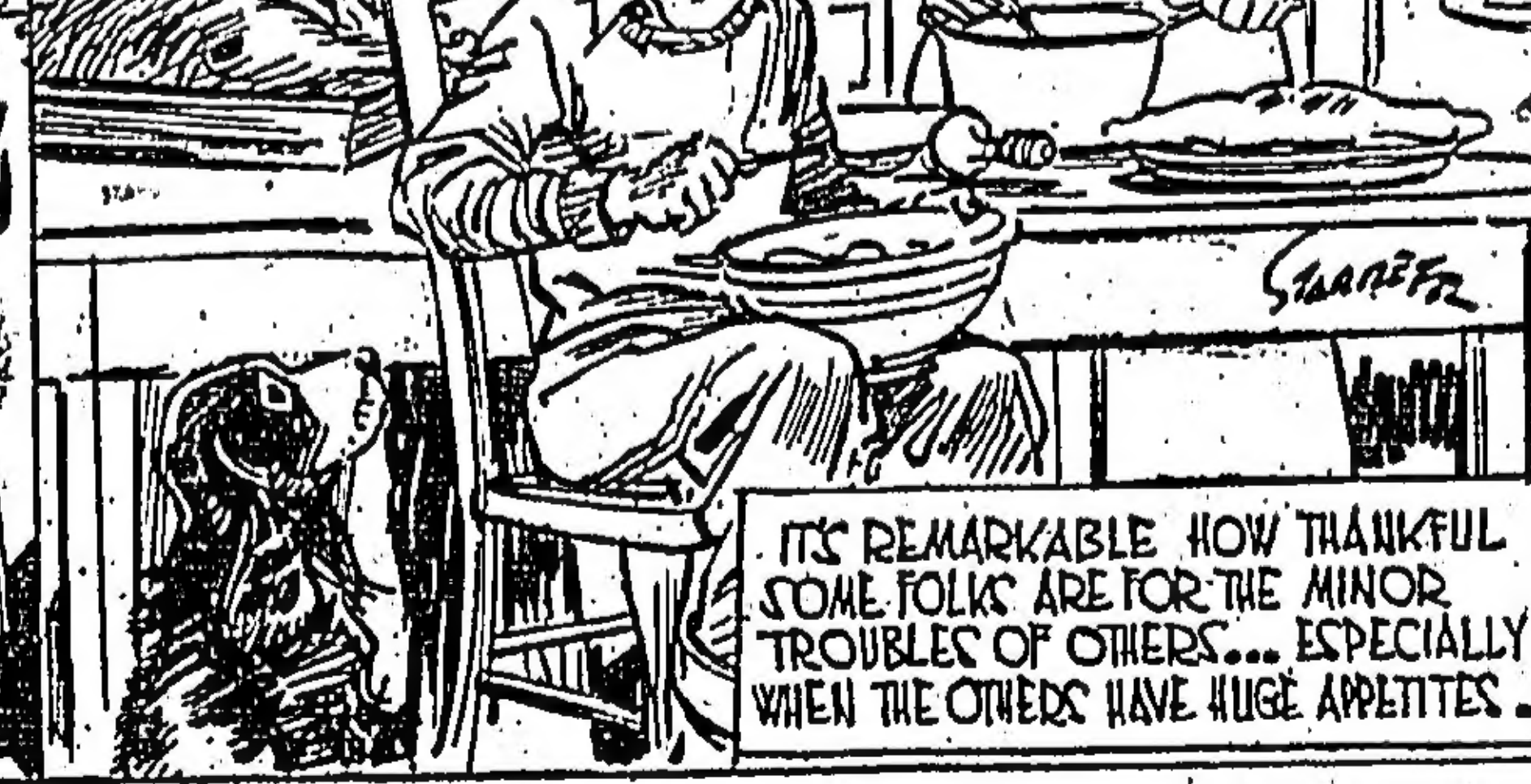
IT'S REMARKABLE HOW THANKFUL SOME FOLKS ARE FOR THE MINOR TROUBLES OF OTHERS... ESPECIALLY WHEN THE OTHERS HAVE HUGE APPETITES.



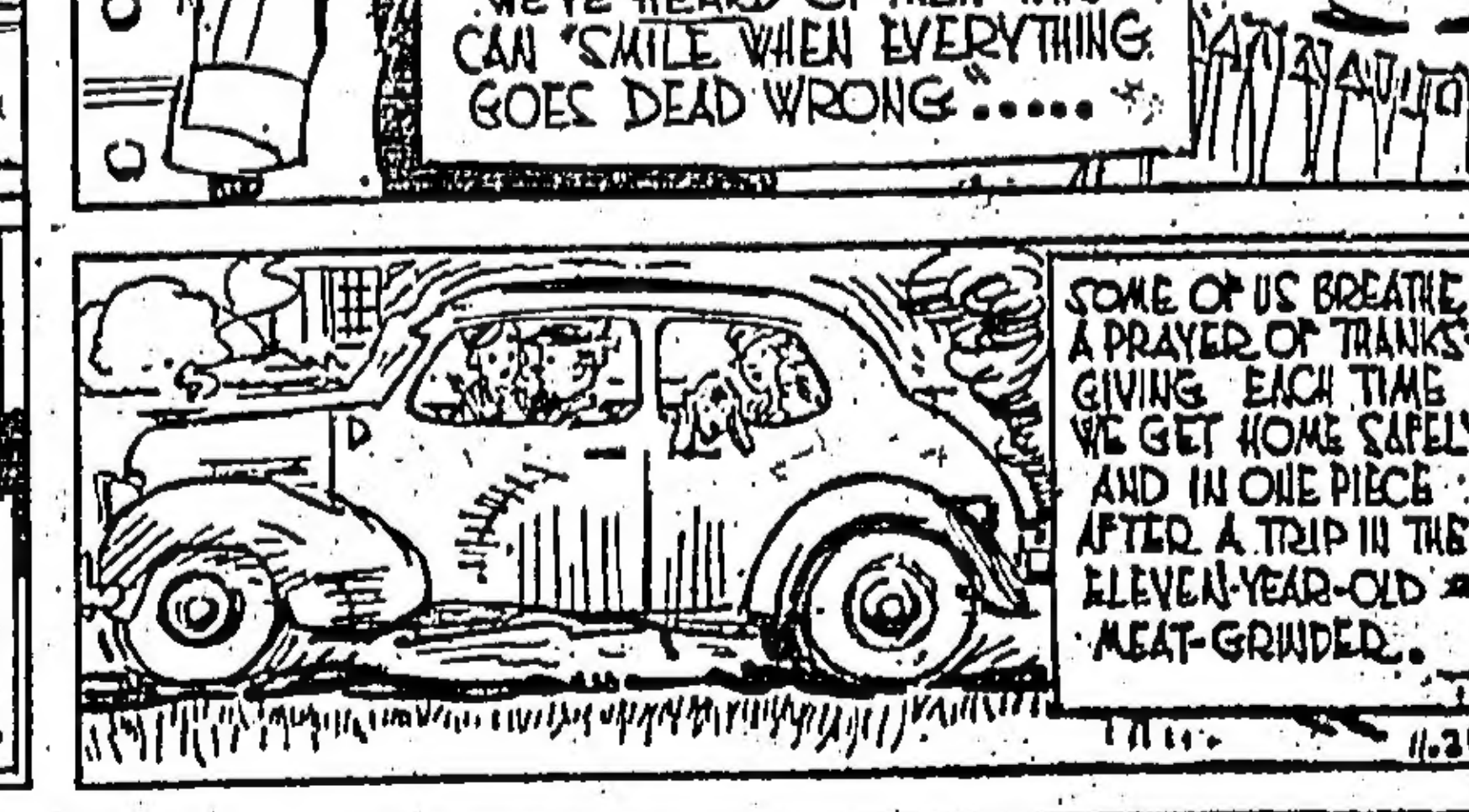
WE'VE HEARD OF MEN WHO CAN SMILE WHEN EVERYTHING GOES DEAD WRONG.....



SOME ARE THANKFUL FOR A SYMPTOM OR TWO TO MATCH THE COMPLAINTS OF THEIR FRIENDS.



WE KNOW PEOPLE WHO'D JUST AS SOON FORGO ANY THANK AT ALL FOR SMALL FAVORS.



SOMETIMES IT'S DIFFICULT TO CONCEAL YOUR GRATITUDE.



OTHERS ARE THANKFUL IF THEY'RE NOT OVER-DRAWN... MUCH... AT THE BANK.



## SPORTS

## STORIES

## PUZZLES

## The BOYS and GIRLS PAGE

## CRAFTS

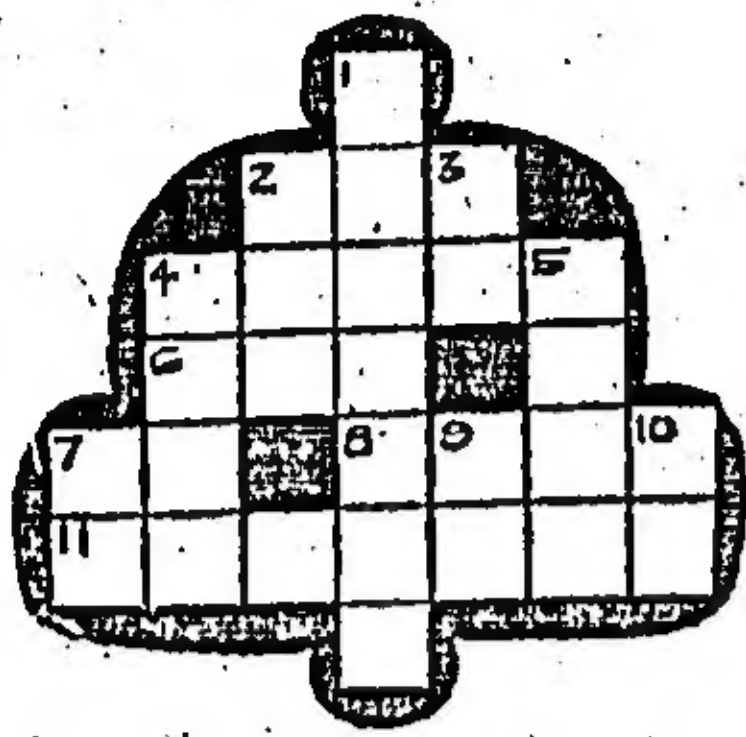
## GAMES

## JOKES

# MENTAL GYMNASIUM

NEW YEAR FOR PUZZLE FANS

## CROSSWORD



## ACROSS

- 2 Foollike part  
4 Legs  
6 Some  
7 Old Testament (ab.)  
8 Kind of cheese  
11 Mends

## DOWN

- 1 We are about to begin a—  
2 Writing tool  
3 Southeast (ab.)  
4 Destiny  
5 Erect  
7 Companion word for "either"  
8 The gods  
10 Manuscript (ab.)

## NEW YEAR REBUS

You'll find four facts about New Year's Eve hidden in the rebus. Use the words and pictures to figure them out.



## DIAMOND

Since there are PARTIES on New Year's Eve, the word forms the centre of the diamond. The second word is "a dance step," the third "peels," the fifth "a fish net," and the sixth "to observe."

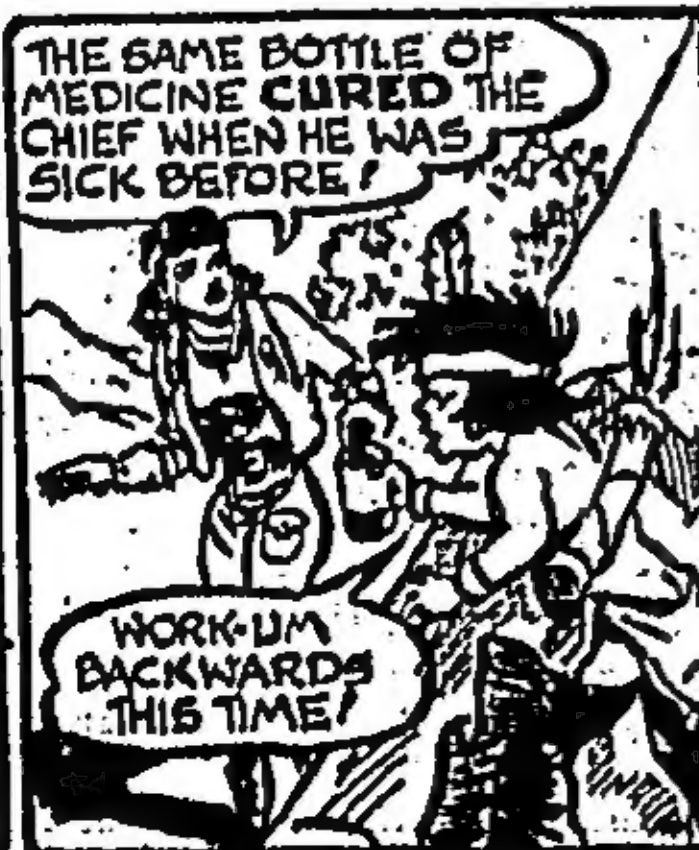
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## Rupert and Margot—30



After thanking Mrs. Bear for the big packet of sandwiches, Rupert runs out of the village towards the point on the river where he has arranged to meet the Rabbit twins, and finds that his pals are there before him. "We're only just got the boat here," shouts Rex, "and we've brought a pair of oars in case there isn't enough wind to take us fast enough." "If there isn't much wind the water won't be rough," smiles Rupert as they all get in, hoist the sail and push off upstream.

## RED RYDER



## Getaway Day

## BY FRED HARMAN

## New Year Has Been Greeted in Many Months of Year

By DAN MURDOCH

DECEMBER is the twelfth month, yet the syllable "dec" comes from a Latin word meaning 10. September, October and November are likewise misnamed, for "sept," "oct" and "nov" come from Latin words meaning "seven," "eight" and "nine."

How does this happen, you ask; can't the calendar makers count? Well, they could long ago when March was the first month. This made September, October, November and December fall in the right place. Since those days the calendar has changed and nobody bothered to change the names of the months.

Long ago, when the Roman and Greek nations were on top of world affairs, the New Year began in the spring. This makes sense to farmers, because they really begin their year with spring planting. Daylight gets longer and the weather gets warmer. Seeds sprout, buds open and growing things turn green.

March was named for the Roman god of war, Mars, who was the head of the agricultural division of Olympus as well.

The Jews began their year in the autumn. And this is sensible too, especially for boys and girls who start school about that time. Autumn is a serious time. Flowers and leaves die and a hard winter is ahead. It's a good time to prepare for things ahead, to study mistakes of the past and prepare for another year of better things. The Jews have repentance and atonement in the autumn for this reason.

The Mohammedan New Year begins in November and the years of other religions and civilisations have begun at various times. In fact, the "fiscal" year of many governments begins on July 1, instead of January 1—but this makes no difference in the calendar.

The fact is that, when a year is started makes no real difference at all. There may be good reasons for starting it any time, but in order

to avoid confusion, nearly everyone nowadays starts his year in winter, about the time the days start to get longer.

As you know, days shorten in the autumn. Some time about the last 10 days of December the "shortest day" occurs and days begin to get longer. For the first week or so the day varies only a few seconds or minutes and the time is hardly enough to notice. But in January people begin to say, "Do you notice how the sun comes up earlier and gets later?"

Ancient people called this "the return of the sun," and so the custom grew of starting the year when the sun began to show itself a little longer each day.

Below the equator, in the southern hemisphere, days begin to get shorter in January, because their summer is taking place during the winter months of the northern hemisphere. But before the calendar was an established institution the southern hemisphere was not inhabited by civilised peoples. Therefore when people of the north colonised Africa, Australia and South America they took the northern calendar with them.

So nearly everyone now has a happy New Year at the same time.

## Hurt Feelings Are Your Own Problem

GETTING our feelings hurt seems to happen to most of us much too often, and we usually blame the other fellow for the grief and unhappiness and resentment it causes. But why should we blame others when no one can upset us unless we let them? Hurt feelings are strictly a personal problem.

Epictetus, a wise old philosopher of ancient times, tells us: "Remember that it is not he who gives abuse or who is a snob who offends, but the view we take of these things as insulting. When, therefore, any one provokes you, be assured that it is your own opinion which provokes you."

If it is our reaction to the incident which turns it into a problem of hurt feelings, then WE are the ones who are to blame and who should do something about it.

When Jim says something that stings we can refuse to be upset. Try reminding yourself how friendly and kind he usually is and do not say something to show him you appreciate his friendship, instead of getting resentful and angry.

If Mary does the very thing you asked her not to do, don't get mad and say spiteful things. Keep control of your temper and emotions and you change the whole situation so no feelings will be hurt.

Once you realize no one can hurt you but yourself, then it is YOUR responsibility to see that things go smoothly.

It takes a lot of sticking to it to keep these resolutions we make and it's just as hard for the other fellow to live up to his. If we make one of our resolves a promise to ourselves to watch for opportunities to help the other fellow stick to his ideals, we'll find ourselves carrying through on a lot of our own good resolutions as a result of it.

## Bragging Is Okay, If Done This Way

PSYCHOLOGISTS say bragging should be encouraged rather than frowned upon. Many of our teen-age worries and uncertainties are based on the fear that we aren't equal to our friends. So, when troubled with inferiority complex, cure it by bragging about the things done well.

The best place for bragging is at home and the easiest way to accomplish it is with a "Brag Board." If you feel that bragging shouldn't be done in public, hang the Brag Board in the back hall, but we predict that when you get used to the idea you'll move it into the living room.

Any home-made bulletin board will do. If you don't have one, remove the glass from a large picture frame and replace it with a square of heavy cardboard. Paint or decorate the frame to match the colour scheme. Then stick up anything and everything that is worth bragging about on the board.

A school report with a good grade, a clipping from your paper about your party, an appointment as club chairman, advancements in Scouting, what the leader of your young



people's group said about the way you accepted responsibility—any and all of those things are actual measurements to show that you are a superior person. You can feel proud about them and you should.

One family cleans off the Bragging Board periodically and pasted the Brags into a Bragging Book. This family scrapbook is a source of great pleasure because it records all family events such as Mother being elected club president, Dad making a speech at Rotary and Junior winning the three-legged race at a picnic.

Bragging Boards have many possibilities as unique gifts, too. If a member of your family, or a friend, is an athlete he will keep his cups on display of course, but clippings and ribbons and other prized odds and ends will probably be hidden away in a desk drawer. Make a montage of these odds and ends and frame them attractively for a gift that the athlete will prize.

You can make a really handsome gift for the whole family by rounding up all the prized medals, club pins and organisation badges that are seldom worn and framing them in a gift shadow box against a background of black velvet.

Go right ahead and brag! It's good for you.

## It Takes Two To Make A Resolution

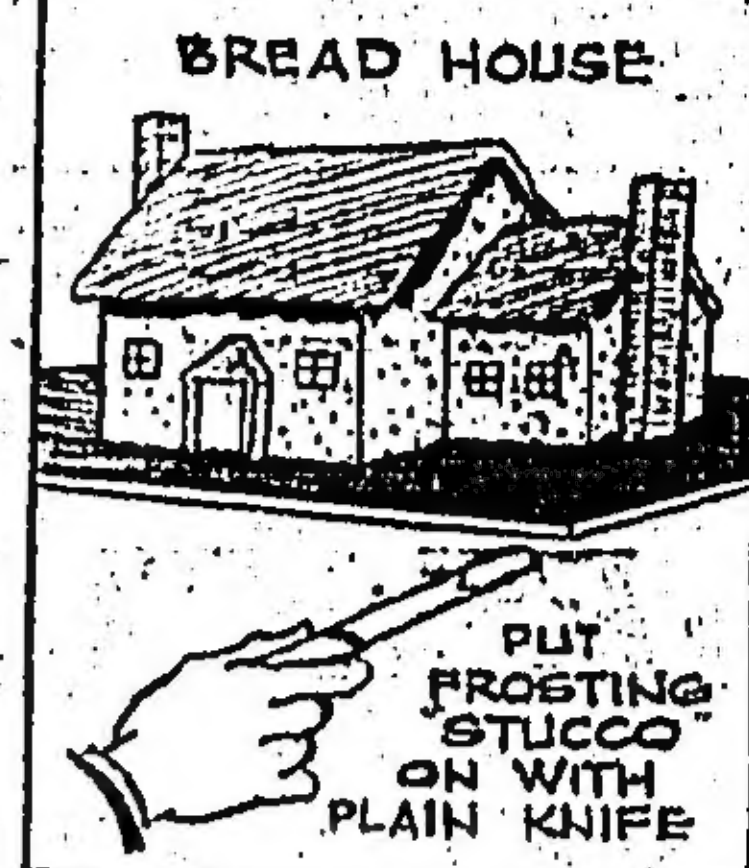
MOST of us make resolutions every New Year's Day, and most of them involve other people, so they become "two-way" propositions—ours and the other fellow's. This came home to us last week as we watched a friend express her appreciation of a small Christmas gift. She was so gracious, so kindly, in her thanks that the giver simply grieved. Later, she told me that one of her resolutions, made some time ago, had been to show more appreciation of other people's good qualities, to share their experiences more wholeheartedly and so "help others keep the good resolutions they made."

That made me realise how definitely our resolutions are two-way affairs. They depend not only on our keeping good ideas working, but in giving the other fellow an opportunity to keep his by accepting from him the good his resolution prompted him to offer.

It takes a lot of sticking to it to keep these resolutions we make and it's just as hard for the other fellow to live up to his. If we make one of our resolves a promise to ourselves to watch for opportunities to help the other fellow stick to his ideals, we'll find ourselves carrying through on a lot of our own good resolutions as a result of it.

## NOT SO NICE!

An exceedingly plump woman teetered into the crowded bus, clutching for a strap and swaying dangerously. "Twelve-year-old Tommy turned to the two boys sitting beside him on the long seat. "Let the three of us get up and give the lady our place," he offered.



## Decoration For A New Year Party

If you want something "different" to brighten up the home for the New Year holiday, make a bread house from two stale loaves, decorated with chocolate and white icing.

You will not be able to eat this appetising bit of property, but it makes a wonderful table ornament. First, slice off the crusts from your two stale loaves with a sharp knife. It will help if you warm the knife blade before each slice.

For the main section of the house cut one piece about six inches long. For the wing make the second loaf four inches long. You will have little difficulty in shaping the roof and cutting a couple of sturdy chimneys from what is left over from the second loaf.

Toothpicks will hold the house together. These are pushed in as far as possible or until both sections and chimneys are solidly fastened together.

Now you are ready for the "stuccoing." Spread cake icing around the walls with a plain knife. The roof is covered by using melted chocolate or by colouring the sugar icing any desirable shade. Windows and doors may be added by means of a cake decorator. Or, if you prefer to keep a rustic effect, simply attach porch and windows cut from the second loaf and cover them with icing.

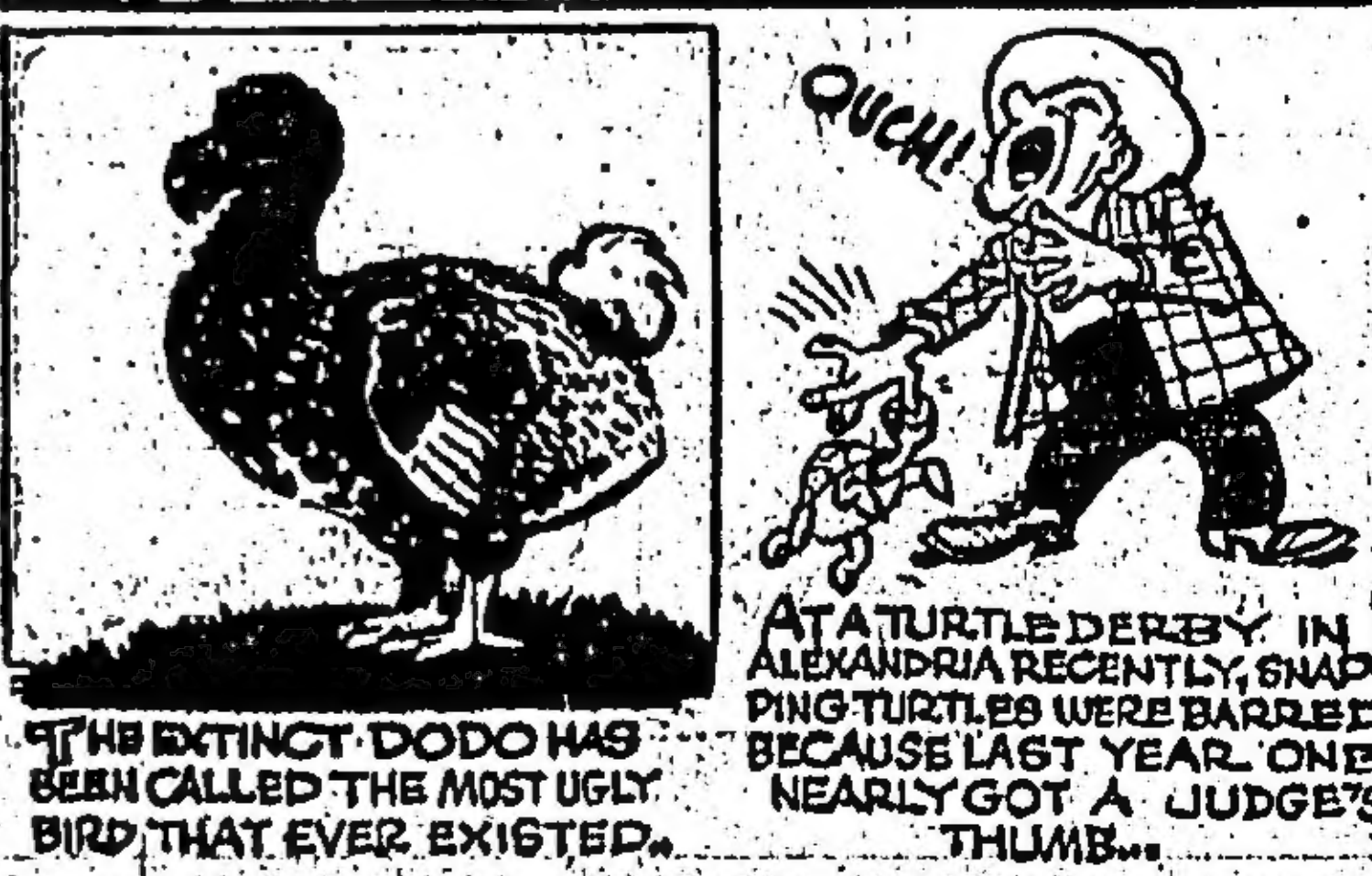
You will find frosting helps cover any holes in the bread to make a really smart-looking house.

When finished, the final step is the landscaping. This is done by placing the house on a board which is covered with a green cloth. Then you can move the house around easily from room to room.

If you prefer a winter scene, place a few clumps of white frosting on the roof and set up your house on a layer of cotton wool. Then arrange a few clumps of evergreens round about by pushing the stems of twigs through the cotton wool and into tiny blocks of bread hidden under the "snow."

## ZOO'S WHO

A FULL GROWN MAN MAY WEIGH 30 TIMES MORE THAN HE WEIGHED AT BIRTH, BUT A BEAR MAY WEIGH 300 TIMES MORE...



AT A TURTLE DERBY IN ALEXANDRIA RECENTLY, SNAPPING TURTLES WERE BARRED BECAUSE LAST YEAR ONE NEARLY GOT A JUDGE'S THUMB...







## TEST MATCH

SOUTH AFRICANS  
FORCE A DRAW

Johannesburg, Dec. 30.—Defying England's attack for six hours in scoring his maiden century in Test cricket, Eric Rowan helped South Africa force a creditable draw today in the second Test here.

At the close of play, South Africa had scored 270 for two wickets in their second innings, having made 315 runs in their first innings in reply to England's 608.

With eight wickets still standing, they were only 23 runs behind.

Rowan, who had been dropped by the selectors from the team for the third Test, made 150 not out, after being missed at mid-off by George Mann, the English captain, with his score at 69. With his captain, Dudley Nourse (50 not out), he put on 163 in about three hours in an unbroken third wicket stand. Earlier, he had helped Bruce Mitchell (40) wear down the English bowling with a resolute partnership of 92 for the second wicket.

With time being of more importance to South Africa today than runs, the scoring rate was very slow until the draw was assured. On a pitch which was still almost perfect, the English attack battered against stolid batsmen who were determined to stay at the wicket and the day's play brought the fall of only one wicket.

Rowan and Mitchell added only 61 runs in the 105 minutes before lunch. After Mitchell had edged a leg-break to Len Hutton off Douglas Wright, Nourse and Rowan continued the same resolute course of keeping their wickets to make the issue safe.

When this objective had been gained, the pair scored more freely.

Mills v.  
Louis?

London, Dec. 30.—When Freddie Mills steps into an open-air London boxing ring on June 2 to fight Bruce Woodcock for the latter's European, British and Empire titles, he may not only emerge as the holder of seven titles, but also as a contender for Joe Louis's world heavyweight title.

Mills, the world, European, British and Empire light-heavyweight champion, was not included by Louis in a list of six contenders he named for an eliminator contest, but the world champion mentioned Gus Lesnevich, from whom Mills took the world title, and Woodcock. A win over Woodcock should put Mills into the running for the heavy-weight honours, for with victories over two of the named contenders he could not be overlooked. The argument that Mills is too light does not bear so much weight now that the National Boxing Association of America have listed Ezzard Charles with Joe Walcott as outstanding contenders for Louis's title.

## CONTENT

Charles is really a light-heavyweight, but has been fighting heavyweights for some time. For some reason or other, he failed to get a light-heavyweight title match with the then champion, Lesnevich, and has been content with his lot in the heavy-weight division.

Proof that he would have no difficulty in making the 12 stone seven pounds limit was provided when Mills received a proposal recently to fight Charles in New York.

The proposal was rejected because the British boxer has already earned a considerable sum during the past year and if he fights again before April he would have to pay income tax on his purse at 19/6d in the Pound Sterling. Mills' manager, said that it would mean training and fighting for nothing. The fact that Charles is not a crowd-puller is also against the match.

**STILL AN ATTRACTION**  
Woodcock has not impressed in his recent fights with the Americans, Lee Oma and Lee Savold, but he is still an attraction in the United States, mainly because he would provide the international tag and therefore assure the promoters of a capacity gate.

If Mills wins on June 2, he will be just as attractive a proposition. It does not hold, however, that if either of the British boxers did enough to be matched for the world title it would necessarily take place in America. Mr. Jack Solomons, the London promoter, has some form of tie-up with the 20th Century Sporting Club in New York, and he is of the opinion that a world heavy-weight fight could be staged in London.

The promoter does not think it would be too difficult to get Louis to come to Britain, for it is a known fact that the champion has been appearing in exhibition bouts because he is short of ready money. —Reuter.

McKenley Going To  
Australia

Sydney, Dec. 30.—Jamaican sprinter Herb McKenley will compete in the Australian track and field championships in Sydney from January 14 to 22.

The Jamaican competed in the last Australian Championships, but had only moderate success. —Associated Press.

Wright (one for 35) and Alec Bedser (one for 51) were the only English bowlers to be rewarded by a wicket for some toiling work.

**THE SCOREBOARD**

England—1st Innings	608
South Africa—1st Innings	315
South Africa—2nd Innings	270
for two	
Rowan, not out	150
Wynne, T. W. b. Bedser	4
Mitchell, c. Hutton, b. Wright	40
Nourse, not out	54
Extras	16
	270

**Bowling:**

	O	M	R	W
Bedser	17	4	51	1
Glidwyn	16	5	37	0
Watkins	12	2	48	0
Wright	14	3	35	1
Jenkins	10	3	54	0
Compton	13	3	31	0

Byes 9, leg-byes 4, No-balls 1 (by Glidwyn). —Reuter.

THEATRE MEN  
SELECT BEST  
MONEY-MAKERS

Hollywood, Dec. 30.—British exhibitors picked Anna Neagle as the best money-making British film star of 1948 and placed her second only to the American crooner, Bing Crosby, in an international list published tonight by the Motion Picture Herald.

The British exhibitors picked the British stars in this order as money-makers after Miss Neagle—Margaret Lockwood, John Mills, Michael Wilding, Stewart Granger, Michael Denison, Jack Warner, Google Withers, Patricia Roc, with a last-place tie between James Mason and Dennis Price.

In their international list, the British exhibitors selected after Bing Crosby and Miss Neagle—Margaret Lockwood, John Mills, Michael Wilding, Frederic March, Bob Hope, Danny Kaye, Myrna Loy and Gregory Peck.

In the American producers' list of Hollywood stars, Bing Crosby came first for the fifth successive year in a record in the 17 years that the poll has been running. Betty Grable, repeating last year's success, came second. It was her sixth appearance among the top 10.

The comedians, Abbott and Costello, after an absence of three years from the lists, came back in third place, followed by Gary Cooper, Bob Hope, Humphrey Bogart, Clark Gable, Cary Grant, Spencer Tracy and Ingrid Bergman. —Reuter.

Four Japs On  
Counterfeiting  
Charges

Chicago, Dec. 30.—Two Japanese and two Japanese-Americans, who said they had planned to "make lots of money" from what one of them learned in prison, were arraigned today on counterfeiting charges.

The men were seized in a raid here before they could print and pass bogus bills. Secret Service agents said they seized counterfeiting equipment, including plates for a US\$20 bill and photographic negatives for US\$50 bills.

The four arrested men were Isamu Honda, alias Fred Honda, 35, Yoshio Kono, 31, Kyoshi Endow, 45, and Kenji Yoda, 45.

Kono and Yoda were Americans of Japanese ancestry, while Endow and Yoda were Japanese aliens. Records here showed that Yoda served a term at San Quentin Prison, California, on a charge of counterfeiting. Endow was once an inmate of Folsom Penitentiary. They said Yoda told them he learned how to make counterfeit plates while in prison and he and others turned out quantities of counterfeit bills.

The United States Commissioner, Mr. Edwin, set bond of US\$10,000 for Endow and Kono and US\$5,000 each for Endow and Yoda. At Washington the Secret Service chief, U. E. Baughman, said the arrests upset the counterfeiting plot before it got under way.

Agents said that Kono, a professional photographer, admitted making the negatives for the plates. —United Press.

Civil War Effect  
On Brushes

Philadelphia, Dec. 30.—The American Brush Manufacturers Association said the Chinese civil war "is having a very serious effect upon the manufacture of paint brushes."

"Chinese bristles—plus bristles—constitute the basic raw material out of which our best paint brushes are made," the Association said. —Associated Press.

Around The  
Town—with Mercia  
Hillaly

PROF. de Vargas really needs no introduction to those who were present at the Club Lusitano to hear his very interesting talk on the History of Cultural Relations between China and the West.

History is his strong subject and he is surprised that so few people here know much about the history of South China, "which is really terribly interesting."

There are many books on the subject, he said, but few seem to read them. Prof. de Vargas also expressed surprise at the lack of some sort of public library here.

Formerly professor at Yenching University in Peking, Prof. de Vargas is now on his way to take up his new post at Silliman University in the Philippines, where he will continue to teach for a couple of years before he joins his wife and children in Lausanne.

A Swiss subject, he came out to China 35 years ago, preparing for missionary work first as student-teacher, and teaching ever since.

During the war he was one of the Swiss representatives for the interned camps and he said how happy he was to have been able to help his many American and British friends.

Prof. Vargas evidently does not believe in retirement, for, despite his long service in the Far East, he will continue to teach when he goes home, and is even thinking of accepting a post in the United States.

Mr. R. Kelly is very modest and shrugs his shoulders when he talks about himself. "There's really not much I can tell you," he said. But what he did tell me made very good listening, for he is widely travelled and can talk of his travels in a way to command interest.

He gave a 15-minute radio talk on Wednesday night on Transjordan, where he spent about two and a half years with the Arabs, acquiring a very fluent knowledge of their language.

He says they still have the belief that Lawrence of Arabia is alive and in hiding.

Two more radio talks will be given shortly, one on South Africa and another on Indo-China. Mr. Kelly will be leaving about the middle of next month for Canada on business.

His experiences cover reporting work in England and during the war, as a parachutist in France, where he worked with the Resistance. After his capture he was held in a prison camp and entrusted with publicity and information control for this German territory.

Since the war he has been touring Australia and New Zealand and Indo-China, and has been in Hongkong for about a month.

You'd think it dangerous to let Aladdin handle anything but magic lanterns, but Wing Commander Patton has other ideas. Perhaps he feels that children's tales ought to keep abreast of the times, and the result is "Aladdin and the Atom Bomb," due to be shown at Kai Tak early in January.

This pantomime will have an all-male cast with officers and airmen of the RAF taking part.

**Col. Sleeman Leaves For Hongkong**  
London, Dec. 30.—On behalf of the Duke of Gloucester, Colonel Sir James Sleeman, CB, CMG, Chief Commissioner of the St. John Ambulance Brigade Overseas, left for Hongkong by air today to hold an investiture and inspect local units of the Brigade.

Afterwards he will visit Singapore and Malaya.—Our Own Correspondent.

**CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS**  
Solution of yesterday's puzzle.—Across: 1, Dotheboys; 2, Reverse; 3, Year's best; 13, Sat; 14, Hands full; 15, Nook; 17, Viet; 18, Reprimand; 19, Dainty; 20, Yellow-meat; 21, Dry Sherry; 2, Train; 3, Horod; 4, Be; 5, Ore; 6, Settled in; 7, Defamed; 10, Siskin; 11, Buff; 12, Saline; 13, Suvu; 10, Opal.

Solution to Skeleton Crossword on Page 13:—

CUSTOMER SERVICE  
IRONED & DESIGNED  
RECEIVED  
NEXT MORNING  
FRESH & NATURAL  
EVEN BETTER  
WASHERY & DRY CLEANING

Truman Questioned  
On Kansas Speech

Washington, Dec. 30.—President Truman today told a press conference that the present Chinese Government was the one recognised by all the world. He said the Under-Secretary of State, Mr. Robert Lovett, was correct in describing as "unbelievable" Communist charges that present Chinese Government leaders, including Chiang Kai-shek, were "war criminals."

Mr. Truman said the question of further United States aid to China would be covered by him in messages to Congress. He pointed out that the question

did not come up until next April 1, when the present ECA appropriation expires.

However, his comment was not interpreted to mean that he would not see Madame Chiang again if she requested another interview. President Truman repeated that some Russian leaders wanted peace with the United States, but he laughingly denied that he had sent the Vice-President, elect, Senator Alben Barkley, to Europe to confer with them.

At the press conference, he was bombarded with questions about his remarks in Kansas City earlier this week, when he said Russia had broken international commitments but "certain" Moscow leaders were willing to "reach an understanding" with the United States.

## NOTHING TO ADD

Asked today to clarify that statement, Mr. Truman said he could not make it any clearer, that he had nothing to add to it and that what he had said was still correct. He again refused to identify those "certain" leaders, but said he had not been in contact with them. He then volunteered that stories had been relayed to him that Senator Barkley's trip to Germany had been to arrange a meeting with Soviet leaders, with a view to future talks to clear up Soviet-American misunderstandings. Mr. Truman said that was not adding that it was a remarkable example of the extent to which speculation could go.

## SMITH RESIGNS

Both Senator Barkley and the U.S. Ambassador to Moscow, General Walter Bedell Smith, returned to Washington while the press conference was under way. General Bedell Smith confirmed that he had submitted his resignation to President Truman. He added: "I sure hope the boss will accept. I have been out of the country seven years and it's time I got back and became reacquainted." Senator Barkley said he did not enter any Soviet occupation zone during his trip to Europe and therefore did not see any Russians.—United Press.

## NOTICE

As of 1st October, 1948, I, H. F. Shields, have taken into partnership N. J. Whelpton, L.D.S., R.C.S., Eng., and will continue to practise dentistry at the former address, Rooms 211/215 (Telephone 27447), Gloucester Building, under the partnership name of "Shields & Whelpton."

As from the 3rd January, 1949, we will also maintain an office in Kowloon at No. 1, Salisbury Road (opposite Kowloon Star Ferry, next to Hong Kong & Kowloon Wharves' main gate; Telephone 50245).

Dated 30th December, 1948.  
H. F. SHIELDS.  
N. J. WHELPOTON.

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Evangelism at 5.15 p.m.

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Tuesday 8 p.m. Bible Study.  
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A Happy and Prosperous  
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